

CITY OF DURHAM Office of Public Affairs 101 CITY HALL PLAZA DURHAM, NC 27701

## **News Release**

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# **Small Business Owners and Entrepreneurs Invited to Resource Fair**

Online Registration Required to Attend Free Event

What: Existing & Prospective Small Businesses and Entrepreneurs Resource Fair

Who: City of Durham Small Business Advisory Committee and the Office of Economic

and Workforce Development

**When:** Wednesday, October 21, 2015, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Where: Historic Parrish Street Forum

108 West Parrish Street Durham, N.C. 27701

### **Fast Facts**

- The City of Durham Small Business Advisory Committee is hosting a small business
  resource fair catering to existing and prospective small businesses and entrepreneurs.
  Participants will benefit from this opportunity to access a variety of service providers and
  resource professionals in one central location, while simultaneously building peer
  connections with local small business owners and entrepreneurs.
- This free event will feature representatives from a diverse group of local support
  organizations serving wide segments of the small business community. Participating
  organizations include <u>Durham Technical Community College Small Business Center (SBC)</u>,
  <u>Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)</u>, <u>Small Business and Technology</u>
  <u>Development Center (SBTDC) at North Carolina Central University</u>, <u>North Carolina Military</u>

Business Center (NCMBC), NC Fourth Sector Resource Project, Greater Durham Black Chamber of Commerce, eMerging Entrepreneurs, Self-Help, and others.

- Light refreshments will be served and advance registration is required as space is limited.
- This resource fair is the third event this fiscal year in support of the Small Business Advisory Committee's strategic focus to increase access to capital for the small business and entrepreneurial community. In keeping with their focus, the committee also hosted two lunch-and-learn events in August and September, focusing on small business capacity building designed to broaden community knowledge of, and access to, many of the business development resources available to small businesses and entrepreneurs in Durham. Additional events are planned throughout the fiscal year, including a small business summit to be held early 2016.
- For additional information about the resource fair, contact Summer S. Alston with the City's Office of Economic and Workforce Development at (919) 560-4965, ext. 15238 or by email.

### **About the Small Business Advisory Committee**

The City of Durham <u>Small Business Advisory Committee</u> is comprised of banks, colleges and universities, seasoned entrepreneurs, and other entities that provide financing and technical assistance. Members have the goal of assisting Durham small businesses with their business development needs. Member organizations offer an array of programs and services, such as business plan and marketing strategy development, financing, management skills training, and business counseling. The City of Durham <u>Office of Economic and Workforce Development</u> connects prospective and existing small businesses and entrepreneurs directly to these member organizations focused on providing technical assistance.

## About the City of Durham Office of Economic and Workforce Development

Guided by the City's <u>Strategic Plan</u>, the <u>Office of Economic and Workforce Development</u> helps ensure that Durham has a strong and diverse economy by increasing the city's tax base through several revitalization initiatives, including new development efforts in the central city area. The department also plans and promotes cultural awareness and events, identifies and recruits target industries as well as assesses and trains Durham residents to fill new jobs.